



VHL Mite Half Ice Protocols – On-Ice Officials 2026-27

Game Setup

1. Officials **MUST** be on the ice 25 minutes prior to face-off to assist in setting up the X-Ice Boards with the Site Director
2. **Ice is cleaned every 2 hours** - Officials and the Site Director are responsible for moving boards as needed so the ice can be resurfaced.
3. **If ice is being made after your last game, or you are working the final X-Ice game of the day, you MUST assist the Site Director with breaking down and removing the boards before leaving the ice.**

Scoring

Officials will be provided with handheld clickers to keep score on ice and must report the final score to the timekeeper.

1. On ice Official is responsible for tracking your game score using handheld clicker provided by Site Director
2. Report the final score to the timekeeper immediately following the game.

Faceoffs

Center Ice Faceoff after Goal or Buzzer

1. Players do not need to be perfectly lined up.
2. Intent is to: Avoid unfair advantage or breakaway after a goal.
3. Ensure the goal is recorded properly and both teams are aware that a goal was scored.

Side Face Off after Goaltender Tie Up

1. Faceoff to the side after each goaltender tie up.
2. Faceoff should not burn too much time and players do not need to be perfectly lined up.
3. Intent is to avoid pile ups in front of goaltender and avoid unfair advantage or zone change as result of shot on goal.

Penalties

1. Egregious penalties will be called.
2. Players will serve penalty for the remainder of the current 2-minute shift plus the next 2-minute shift,
3. The offending team will be play short-handed (3 Skaters) for the entire penalty.

Game format

1. Format is 4 on 4 plus goaltender.
2. 1 on-ice official per each half-ice game
3. Games will be two 24-minute halves with running time.
4. Buzzer every 2 Minutes for line change
5. No offsides or icing
6. Teams will not be permitted to change players on the fly, player changes can only occur after the buzzer. Exception - Goaltender can be pulled at any time for an extra skater.